

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6160th 10 July 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in West Africa (S/2009/332)				S/PRST/2009/20
6207th 28 October 2009					S/PRST/2009/27

16. The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

Overview

During the period 2008-2009, the Security Council held 13 meetings, including one private meeting with the troop-contributing countries,²¹⁶ and adopted two resolutions and three presidential statements concerning the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion. The Council focused on the volatile security situation in eastern Chad and north-eastern Central African Republic and its negative impact on the humanitarian situation in the region, and oversaw the deployment of a multidimensional presence with a mandate, inter alia, to protect humanitarian operations and displaced persons. The Council also focused on the attacks perpetrated by armed groups against the Government of Chad as well as the implementation of the Dakar Agreement of 13 March 2008 and the Doha Agreement of 3 May 2009.²¹⁷

In June 2008, the Council visited Chad in connection with the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion, as part of its mission to Africa.²¹⁸

The Council twice extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) for periods of 12 months, until 15 March 2009 and 15 March 2010.²¹⁹

4 February and 16 June 2008: presidential statements on attacks by armed groups against the Government of Chad

By a presidential statement of 4 February 2008,²²⁰ the Council, inter alia, strongly condemned the attacks perpetrated by armed groups against the Government of Chad, and called upon the States of the region to deepen their cooperation with a view to putting an end to the activities of armed groups and their attempt to seize power by force. The Council expressed its concern regarding the direct threat that the combats posed for the safety of the civilian population, including internally displaced persons and refugees.

By a presidential statement of 16 June 2008,²²¹ the Council condemned in the strongest terms the attacks conducted by Chadian armed groups since 11 June 2008, and demanded that all armed groups cease violence immediately. In addition, the Council called upon States in the region to implement their commitments under the Dakar Agreement and prior agreements, and to cooperate with a view to putting an

²¹⁶ 5975th meeting, held on 19 September 2008.

²¹⁷ The Dakar Agreement and the Doha Agreement (S/2009/249, annex) were signed by the Governments of Chad and the Sudan with a view to defusing tensions and stopping the support of both parties for rebels. For more information, see the case study in the present part concerning the situation in Chad and the Sudan.

²¹⁸ For more information, see the present part, sect. 40, and part VI, sect. II, in regard to Security Council missions.

²¹⁹ Resolutions 1834 (2008) and 1861 (2009), respectively. For more information, see part X, sect. I, in regard to the mandate of MINURCAT.

²²⁰ S/PRST/2008/3.

²²¹ S/PRST/2008/22.

end to the activities of armed groups in the region and their attempts to seize power by force.

**19 September 2008 to 22 October 2009:
relations between Chad and the Sudan**

On 19 September 2008, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINURCAT, introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the Mission,²²² reported that relations between Chad and the Sudan remained tense, despite the regular meetings of the contact group established under the Dakar Accord. He stated that both Chad and the Sudan had agreed to exchange ambassadors and to reopen their embassies before the next meeting of the contact group.²²³ The representative of Chad said that since the signing of the Dakar Accord, his country had accepted the re-establishment of political relations, which the Sudan had previously broken off. His country had the political will to help the Sudan resolve its crisis in Darfur, and hoped that, in turn, the instability of eastern Chad would cease.²²⁴

On 8 May 2009, the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations reported that on 3 May in Doha, under the auspices of the Governments of Qatar and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Governments of Chad and the Sudan signed the Doha Agreement, a new bilateral agreement, to normalize relations and deny any support, in their respective territories, to rebel groups that were hostile to either of them.²²⁵ The representative of Chad stated that following the signing of the Doha Agreement, his country was attacked by forces coming from the Sudan. He claimed that the Sudanese, Chadian and binational combatants recruited by the Government of the Sudan were working to overthrow the legitimate Government of Chad.²²⁶ The representative of the Sudan, however, said that what was happening in Chad was an internal affair that the Sudan had nothing to do with. He stated, in addition, that the Sudan had called for independent mechanisms to investigate Chadian allegations that were made to conceal the domestic failures of Chad and mask its plans for aggression against the Sudan.²²⁷

By a presidential statement of 8 May 2009,²²⁸ the Council, *inter alia*, called on the Sudan and Chad to respect and fully implement their mutual commitments, in particular in the Doha Agreement of 3 May 2009 and the Dakar Agreement of 13 March 2008, and to engage constructively with the Dakar Agreement Contact Group and the good offices of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Qatar, to normalize their relations, cooperate to put an end to cross-border activities of armed groups and strengthen actions to combat illicit arms trafficking in the region.

On 28 July 2009, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, introducing the report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT,²²⁹ reported that the relationship between Chad and the Sudan had a critical impact on the situation on both sides of the border and that there was an urgent need to de-escalate the situation and resume diplomatic initiatives.²³⁰ In view of the interrelatedness of the conflicts in Chad and the Sudan, speakers generally concurred that the resolution of the crisis required close cooperation among neighbouring States. Hence, many speakers deplored the deterioration of the relations between Chad and the Sudan, and called on both countries to refrain from any actions that could lead to further escalation. They also called upon both countries to use the existing bilateral arrangements agreed upon in the past, including the Dakar Agreement Contact Group, to normalize their bilateral relations.

On 22 October 2009, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported on the high-level contacts between the Governments of Chad and the Sudan, in particular the meeting in N'djamena on 11 October, during which the President of Chad and the Presidential Adviser of the Sudan stressed their desire to restore confidence between the two Governments. He also reported that the African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator had encouraged the Government of Chad to continue this dialogue, since an improvement in Chad-Sudan relations would have a direct and positive impact on efforts to achieve peace in Darfur.²³¹

²²² S/2008/601.

²²³ S/PV.5976, pp. 2-4.

²²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

²²⁵ S/PV.6121, p. 3.

²²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

²²⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

²²⁸ S/PRST/2009/13.

²²⁹ S/2009/359.

²³⁰ S/PV.6172, p. 3.

²³¹ S/PV.6204, pp. 2-3.

**19 September 2008 to 28 July 2009:
replacement of EUFOR by a military
component of MINURCAT**

On 19 September 2008, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General provided an overview of the key elements of the concept of operations of a possible United Nations presence following the end of the mandate of the European Union operation in Chad and the Central African Republic (EUFOR Chad/Central African Republic) on 15 March 2009. An added military component for MINURCAT, he cautioned, would be effective only if the Mission had the mandate to support Chadian stakeholders in addressing underlying causes of insecurity relevant to the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons.²³² The representatives of the Central African Republic and Chad welcomed the replacement of EUFOR by a military force of MINURCAT.²³³

On 24 September 2008, while emphasizing the need for continued and accelerated international engagement in the region, the representative of France noted that the European Union was in favour of replacing EUFOR with a United Nations mission and stressed the need to prevent a security vacuum in the transition period.²³⁴ Noting that EUFOR had always been meant as a transitional mechanism, the representative of Belgium stressed the importance of beginning preparations for the transition to a United Nations force.²³⁵ The representative of the United States added that a well-trained and well-equipped United Nations military presence had to be deployed well in advance of the EUFOR expiration date on 15 March, in order to allow for a smooth and successful transition.²³⁶

In a second meeting held on the same day, speaking before the adoption of resolution 1834 (2008), the representative of the United Kingdom welcomed the renewal of the mandate of MINURCAT and, in principle, the transition from EUFOR to a United Nations force. However, he stressed that much work needed to be done before the Council could take a decision on setting up a new United Nations

peacekeeping operation. He emphasized that an expanded United Nations mission in Chad needed clear objectives, an achievable mandate, a sensible time frame for deployment, measurable benchmarks and a realistic end state that, once achieved, would enable the force to withdraw.²³⁷

In resolution 1834 (2008) of 24 September 2008, the Council, deeply concerned at the activities of armed groups and other attacks in eastern Chad, the north-eastern Central African Republic and western Sudan, decided to extend until 15 March 2009 the mandate of MINURCAT, and called on the Secretary-General to complete the Mission's deployment as soon as possible. Moreover, the Council expressed its intention to authorize the deployment of a United Nations military component to follow up EUFOR in both Chad and the Central African Republic.

On 12 December 2008, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, introducing the report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT,²³⁸ provided an update on preparations for the transfer of authority from EUFOR to a United Nations military component on 15 March 2009, including options on the size, structure and mandate of the proposed United Nations military presence in Chad and the Central African Republic. He informed the Council that Chad had agreed to the deployment of a United Nations force of 4,900 troops, and briefed members on options for the United Nations presence in the north-east of the Central African Republic.²³⁹

By resolution 1861 (2009) of 14 January 2009, the Council, inter alia, extended the mandate of MINURCAT until 15 March 2010, authorized the deployment of a military component of MINURCAT to follow up EUFOR in both Chad and the Central African Republic, and decided that the transfer of authority between EUFOR and the military component of MINURCAT should take place on 15 March 2009. Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council decided that MINURCAT should be authorized to take all necessary measures to protect civilians in danger, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and protect United Nations personnel and facilities.

On 24 April 2009, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, introducing the

²³² S/PV.5976, pp. 2-4.

²³³ Ibid., p. 6 (Central African Republic) and p. 7 (Chad).

²³⁴ S/PV.5980, p. 4.

²³⁵ Ibid., p. 5.

²³⁶ Ibid., p. 6.

²³⁷ S/PV.5981, p. 2.

²³⁸ S/2008/760.

²³⁹ S/PV.6042, pp. 2-4.

report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT,²⁴⁰ reported that force generation for MINURCAT had been slower than anticipated owing to gaps in the provision of the necessary equipment. He stressed that the equipment gaps, particularly a shortfall in military helicopters and a critical communications unit, weakened the Mission's ability to conduct operations on a 24-hour basis. He called on the Council to do everything within its power to ensure that MINURCAT had the required equipment to implement its mandate.²⁴¹

On 28 July 2009, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, introducing the report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT,²⁴² reported that the deployment of the military force stood at 46 per cent of its mandated strength. The slow deployment of the force had limited the ability of MINURCAT to effectively execute the military concept of operations and provide the required safe and secure environment for humanitarians, refugees, displaced and vulnerable populations, including in the returnee areas.²⁴³ Council members commended MINURCAT for the contribution it was making in the affected areas of Chad and the Central African Republic and called for accelerated deployment of the Mission to enable it to better fulfil its mandate, which included protecting civilians and humanitarian personnel.

²⁴⁰ S/2009/199.

²⁴¹ S/PV.6111, pp. 3-5.

²⁴² S/2009/359.

²⁴³ S/PV.6172, p. 4.

28 July and 22 October 2009: briefings by the Secretariat on the humanitarian situation in eastern Chad

On 28 July 2009, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General reported on attacks against humanitarian personnel in eastern Chad, and attacks by armed groups in the Central African Republic which had increased the number of refugees and limited the delivery of humanitarian aid.²⁴⁴ Speakers expressed concern over the continued volatile security situation in Chad and the north-eastern part of the Central African Republic and its negative impact on the humanitarian situation in the region. They noted that there were still many refugees and internally displaced persons in need of humanitarian assistance, and deplored ongoing attacks against humanitarian personnel.

On 22 October 2009, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported that the *Détachement intégré de sécurité*, the Chadian community police force trained by MINURCAT, and responsible for, inter alia, assisting in creating a security environment conducive to carrying out humanitarian activities, were now deployed. MINURCAT continued creating a secure environment for humanitarian activities, while improved coordination between the *Détachement*, the national police and the gendarmerie had also enhanced security for humanitarian efforts.²⁴⁵

²⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 2-3.

²⁴⁵ S/PV.6204, pp. 2-3.

Meetings: the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5830th 4 February 2008		Letter from the representative of Chad requesting the assistance of the Council in ending an attempt to overthrow the Government (S/2008/69)	Rule 37 Chad		S/PRST/2008/3

**Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of
the Security Council for the maintenance of
international peace and security**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5913th 16 June 2008			Rule 37 Chad		S/PRST/2008/22
5976th 19 September 2008	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2008/601)		Rule 37 Central African Republic (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Chad Rule 39 Special Representative of the Secretary- General and Head of MINURCAT	All invitees	
5980th 24 September 2008			Rule 39 High Representative of the European Union	High Representative of the European Union, 5 Council members (Belgium, Burkina Faso, France, Italy, United States)	
5981st 24 September 2008	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2008/601 and Add.1)	Draft resolution submitted by 6 Member States ^a (S/2008/616)	Rule 37 Chad	1 Council member (United Kingdom)	Resolution 1834 (2008) 15-0-0
6042nd 12 December 2008	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2008/760)		Rule 37 Central African Republic, Chad Rule 39 Special Representative of the Secretary- General	3 Council members (Costa Rica, France, Italy), all invitees	
6064th 14 January 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2008/760 and Add.1)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2009/29)	Rule 37 Central African Republic, Chad		Resolution 1861 (2009) 15-0-0

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<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6111th 24 April 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2009/199)	Two reports on the activities of EUFOR Chad/Central African Republic (S/2009/214, annexes I and II)	Rule 37 Central African Republic, Chad, Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union) Rule 39 Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All invitees	
6121st 8 May 2009	Letter dated 6 May 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/232)		Rule 37 Chad, Sudan Rule 39 Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations	All invitees	
6122nd 8 May 2009	Letter dated 6 May 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/232)		Rule 37 Chad		S/PRST/2009/13
6172nd 28 July 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2009/359)		Rule 37 Central African Republic, Chad Rule 39 Special Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members and all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6204th 22 October 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2009/535)		Rule 39 Assistant Secretary- General for Peacekeeping Operations	Assistant Secretary- General for Peacekeeping Operations	

^a Belgium, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and United States.

17. Peace and security in Africa

Overview

During the period 2008-2009, the Security Council held 18 meetings, including 2 private meetings,²⁴⁶ and adopted three resolutions and five presidential statements under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”. Discussions covered thematic issues, focusing on cooperation with regional organizations, particularly the African Union, the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa and drug trafficking, and country-specific situations relating to Kenya, Djibouti and Eritrea, Zimbabwe, and Mauritania.

6 February 2008: Presidential Statement on the post-election violence in Kenya

On 6 February 2008, the Council adopted a presidential statement²⁴⁷ in which it welcomed the announcement of progress in the negotiations, overseen by Mr. Kofi Annan, between President Mwai Kibaki and the opposition leader, Raila Odinga, including the adoption of an agenda and a timetable for action to end the crisis in Kenya following the disputed elections of 27 December 2007. The Council expressed its deep concern that civilians continued to be killed, subjected to sexual and gender-based violence, and displaced from their homes. It emphasized that the only solution to the crisis lay through dialogue, negotiation and compromise, and strongly urged Kenya’s political leaders to foster reconciliation and to elaborate and implement the actions agreed to on 1 February without delay.

12 June 2008 to 14 January 2009: border dispute between Djibouti and Eritrea

By a presidential statement of 12 June 2008,²⁴⁸ the Council, inter alia, expressed its strong concern about the serious incidents that had occurred on 10 June 2008 along the frontier between Djibouti and Eritrea. The Council called upon the parties to commit to a ceasefire and urged both parties, in particular Eritrea, to show maximum restraint and withdraw forces to the status quo ante. Moreover, the Council encouraged the Secretary-General urgently to use his good offices to facilitate bilateral discussions to determine arrangements for decreasing the military presence along the border and to develop confidence-building measures to resolve the border situation.

On 24 June 2008, the Council held an emergency meeting in response to a request from the representative of Djibouti concerning the border dispute between his country and Eritrea.²⁴⁹ The Director of the Africa I Division of the Department of Political Affairs, providing an update on the situation, stated that interlocutors had described the situation on the border as calm but tense, with military regrouping occurring on either side. Reporting on his respective meetings with the representatives of Eritrea and Djibouti, he said that the former had claimed that the border skirmishes had been initiated by Djibouti. However, the representative of Djibouti had said that Eritrea had thus far failed to explain the reasons for its military presence in the area and had refused to resume

²⁴⁶ 5920th meeting, held on 23 June 2008, and 6044th meeting, held on 15 December 2008.

²⁴⁷ S/PRST/2008/4.

²⁴⁸ S/PRST/2008/20.

²⁴⁹ See S/2008/387.